

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 13-16 have been amended to be more clearly directed to a hand-held power nut runner, based on the disclosure in, for example, Fig. 1, and the disclosure in the last full paragraph on page 2 of the specification. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered under 37 CFR 1.116.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 13-16 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of USP 5,336,136 ("Jacqui"), USP 3,245,279 ("Baker"), and USP 6,099,432 ("Shirokoshi"). This rejection, however, is respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

In the Amendment filed on April 5, 2010, it was pointed out that Jacqui does not relate to a power tool. In fact, Jacqui relates to "tubular motors . . . for driving a tube for winding up wind-up blinds or shutters, as well as for driving doors." Column 1, lines 14-17.

In response, the Examiner asserts that "[a]pplicant has not claimed any structural limitations that would preclude Jacqui

from being considered a 'power tool.' Jacqui teaches a powered tool that can be used for applications such as winding up blinds or driving doors." See page 3 of the Final Office Action.

Amended claims 13-16 are now all clearly directed to a hand-held power nut runner. And it is respectfully submitted that the field of application of the claimed present invention is significant, in that a considerable amount of torque is transferred through the gearing of a nut runner at the end of a screw tightening process, and in that a hand-held power nut runner should have outer dimensions that are as small as possible. A greater demand is thus placed upon the reduction gearing to cope with high torque levels. See also, for example, the "Background of the Invention" section of the specification.

The structure disclosed by Jacqui is, by contrast, a rather simple motor/gearing design intended for a less demanding purpose, with a design including a combined output shaft/satellite holder intended to reduce the number of components and simplify manufacture (column 3, lines 25-29). It is respectfully submitted that the motor disclosed by Jacqui is not intended to generate high torque levels, as indicated by the lack of any needle bearings in the planet wheels (even in the last reduction step, where the highest torque load would be expected), and as indicated by the plain bearing arrangement between the output shaft/satellite holder 17b and the housing.

Indeed, it is respectfully submitted that the rather simple and low cost motor of Jacqui has no need at all for supporting the planet wheels on needle bearings, and accordingly, there would be no reason for a person of ordinary skill in the art having common sense to seek to modify Jacqui by introducing any type of particular bearing arrangements. Such a modification would only needlessly complicate and increase the cost of the structure in Jacqui.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art having common sense would have no reason to modify Jacqui in view of Baker.

In addition, it is respectfully pointed out that Jacqui (which relates a motor for blinds) and Baker (which refers to helicopters in its background) belong to completely different technical fields in which completely different demands on size with respect to transferred torque load have to be considered. It would thus not at all have been an obvious matter to apply the planet wheel arrangement of Baker in the device of Jacqui.

It is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art having common sense would not think to modify Jacqui as the Examiner suggests, because there would have been no need to strengthen the reduction gearing in Jacqui. Indeed, the motivations of one of ordinary skill considering Jacqui would be to not complicate the device any more than necessary. And it is

respectfully submitted that it would not at all have been obvious to modify the tubular motor of Jacqui in view of the teachings of Baker to achieve a hand-held power nut runner as according to the claimed present invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the hand-held power nut runner of the present invention as recited in amended claims 13-16 clearly patentably distinguishes over Jacqui, Baker, and Shirokoshi considered in any reasonable combination consistent with the respective fair teachings thereof under 35 USC 103.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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